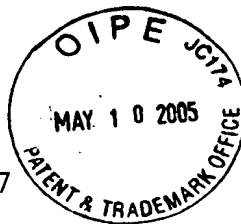


DOCKET NO. 9558-003-27



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Toshiki TAYA, et al.

ART UNIT: 1634

SERIAL NO.: 09/865,579

EXAMINER: Juliet Caroline
Switzer

FILING DATE: May 29, 2001

FOR: OLIGONUCLEOTIDES AND METHOD FOR DETECTION OF MECA
GENE OF METHICILLIN-RESISTANT STAPHYLOCOCCUS AUREUS

REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUANCE

OFFICE OF FINANCE
REFUND SECTION
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
PO BOX 1450
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

In the Office Action of April 5, 2005, the Examiner states that the IDS filed October 3, 2003 has not been considered as the references were not received with the IDS. Further, Applicants have received an European Patent Search Report for the EP patent application, which corresponds to the present application. The issue fee was paid for the present application on March 28, 2005. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request withdrawal of the present application from issuance pursuant to 37 CFR 1.313(c)2 or 1.313(c)3 and are filing an RCE so that the information in the IDS can be considered by the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

DLA PIPER RUDNICK GRAY CARY U.S. LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Kelber", written over a horizontal line.

Steven B. Kelber
Registration No. 30,073
Attorney of Record
Ping Wang
Registration No. 48,328

1200 Nineteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-2412
Telephone No. (202) 861-3900
Facsimile No. (202) 223-2085